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PATENT

Attorney Docket No.: NPSTR-01400

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Wilburt J. Labio et al.

Serial No.: 09/635,777

Filed: August 11, 2000

For: **SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR
SEARCHING PEER-TO-PEER
COMPUTER NETWORKS**

) Group Art Unit: 2857

) Examiner:

) **PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

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Sir:

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Technology Center 2100

AMENDMENTS

Clean version of claims, incorporating current amendments.

- 1 1. (Amended) A method for searching a peer-to-peer computer network comprising:
- 2 a. collecting data about a plurality of computers within the network, including a
- 3 network location of each of the plurality of computers;
- 4 b. selecting at least one computer to be a selected computer, based on the collected
- 5 data; and
- 6 c. routing a search query from a user to the selected computer via the network
- 7 location of the selected computer.

- 1 2. (Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein said collecting data about a plurality of
- 2 computers within the network further comprises:
- 3 a. sending a signal to at least one of the plurality of computers;